



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10**

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OFFICE OF  
ECOSYSTEMS,  
TRIBAL AND PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS

March 31, 2014

Salmon-Challis National Forest  
Attn: Karen Gallogly  
1206 South Challis Street  
Salmon, Idaho 93467

Re: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency comments for the Salmon-Challis National Forest (SCNF) Travel Planning and OHV Designation Project to Comply with District of Idaho Court Order Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) and Draft Revised Record of Decision (Revised ROD). EPA Project Number 07-034-AFS

Dear Ms. Gallogly:

This review was conducted in accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

In our October 8, 2013 comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS (DSEIS) we stated our concern that the Motor Vehicle Use Maps (MVUM) do not communicate several important elements of the SCNF's travel management plan, including: unacceptable damage limitations on dispersed camping; 30 foot set-back from streams, lakes or ponds for motorized access to dispersed camping; and the prohibition on motorized travel off designated routes for game retrieval. We recommended that this information be added to the MVUM or integrated into supplementary navigation materials as appropriate. Your new commitments to add a handout page to your MVUMs and post this information on the Forest web page are responsive to our recommendation.

We also stated our concern that the DSEIS does not clearly disclose the total amount of Forest-wide motorized routes which would be designated. We believe the total amount of Forest-wide motorized routes is an important summary indicator of a forest's progress toward reducing adverse impacts to sensitive forest resources, and implementing travel management which is sustainable over the long-term. The table provided as a response to our comments includes the specific information that we requested.<sup>1</sup> This table, along with other detailed and summary information in the ROD and FSEIS, indicates to us that the Forest is indeed achieving overall progress toward reducing adverse impacts to forest resources from motorized travel.

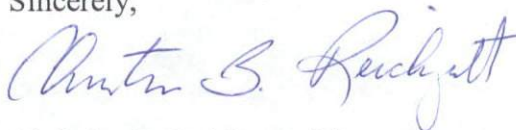
Thank you for considering and responding not only to our 2013 DSEIS comments, but also to our 2007, 2008, and 2009 scoping and EIS comment letters. We commend you and your staff for your efforts to address the many challenges inherent in travel planning and route designation.

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<sup>1</sup> FSEIS, Vol. 2, App. F, p. 275

If you have any questions please contact me at (206) 553-1601, or by electronic mail at reichgott.christine@epa.gov, or you may contact Erik Peterson of my staff at (206) 553-6382, or by electronic mail at peterson.erik@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Christine B. Reichgott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "C" and "R".

Christine B. Reichgott, Manager  
Environmental Review and Sediment Management Unit